

ST. LUKE'S GIRLS LEAGUE

1919 - 1959



ST. LUKE'S GIRLS LEAGUE was organized, chiefly to assist in the maintenance and new work in the church, under the leadership of Reverend William McClelland. The first meeting was held July 23rd, 1919, at which time a constitution was drafted and accepted and the following Officers were duly elected:

Alice M. Farrell,	President
Marguerite M. Litzke,	Vice President
Florence S. Mahler,	Secretary
Elsie R. Litzke,	Treasurer

The first regular meeting was held August 14th, 1919. We started a fund called the "\$1000." fund which was to be used for installation of Choir Stalls. After the meeting Elsie Litzke entertained us with a song followed by the reading of some jokes by Florence Mahler (now Mathers).

1920 Same Officers elected. Usual business meetings at which time colors of the League were adopted, namely; "Cherry and White". We were entertained by our President, Alice M. Farrell, known to most of us as "Aunt Alice" by picnics, suppers, etc. At one of the meetings Elsie Litzke sang and read a poem entitled "Some Little Bug"; Bessie MacDonald, now Moor, read riddles. We donated \$100. towards the Reverend S. F. Hotchkin Memorial window.

1921 We had our regular meetings, suppers were held. We had dances, but never made much money, in fact, most of the time went into debt. At one of the dances Elsie Litzke and Bessie MacDonald donated a box of candy as a prize. Elsie Litzke read a poem, Anna Vaders (now Curry) was a ghost and sang a ghost song. A farewell party and shower was given for Esther Blake (now Davis) who moved to Cleveland, Ohio. Ice cream, cake and candy was served at the March meeting in honor of Lily Litzke's (now Padbury) birthday. Helen McBride (now Jones) entertained us with a Monologue. Sept. [1921] Prayer Desks made by Edward Maene at a cost of \$300. were dedicated.

Dec. 10, 1921 a shower was given for Edna Crosland (now Harling).

1922 During this year we sponsored a concert, Minstrel show, Progressive Game party, suppers, Hallowe'en Party.

→ April 1922 the Communion rail made by Edward Maene at a cost of \$200. was installed.

We gave Anna Vaders a miscellaneous shower.

1923 Usual activities and business meetings. "Aunt Alice" entertained us with a party at which time we gave Hannah Doberstein (now Haeberle) a shower.

During this year Choir Stalls made by Edward Maene at a cost of \$1000. were installed, and paneling was done, costing \$350.

1924 The Rectory during this year needed repairs to which we donated \$100.

Inasmuch as Anna Vaders Curry had the first baby in the League she was given a baby shower. In November, 1924 a Miscellaneous shower was given Bessie MacDonald, now Moor.

1925 Reverend Paul Micou was rector at this time. The Sunday School building was painted and the cost was \$60.00.

Mrs. Bessie MacDonald resigned as Vice President and Mable Crosland (now Henry) was elected in her place. Aunt Alice gave the girls a supper and a shower was given for Florence Mahler (now Mathers). Catherine S. Lewis was elected Secretary.

In September we gave a double shower for Blanche Ashton (now deceased) and Mable Henry.

1926 During this year Mrs. Margaret McMullin and Mrs. Emma Schwering were appointed as advisors, as we had no leadership during the following years.

1927 The inside of the Church was painted which cost \$590.00.

1928-1929 The League was apparently inactive as there are no records for these years. (Unless someone remembers something that happened during this time.)

1930 Two prayer books were purchased for the Altar, which cost \$48.75.

April 28th, 1930 we gave showers for Helen Shivery (now Brooks) and Edith Schoch (now McCloy).

1931 Usual events, meetings, suppers, etc.

1932 Card Party, Bingo party, Oyster Supper, trip to Wilmington by boat. June 11th, invitation to Florence Mahler's wedding.

1933 Dance, Play "Oh, Professor", suppers, etc. We gave a shower for Mildred Brown (now Pierson).

1934 Dorothy Boetsch (now Ballantine) was married to Charles Ballantine, May 4th, 1934. Shower was given for her and Lily Litzke (now Padoury). Lily Litzke was married June 23rd, 1934. A play entitled "The Valley of Ghosts" was held September, 1934.

1935 At one of our meetings we initiated new members and those who had joined during the years. Corporate Communion was held at 8 A.M. and breakfast in the Hall.

1936 We celebrated the 75th Anniversary of St. Luke's Church during this year. A costume ball was given October 21st, 1936 which we sponsored. There were different events during the entire week. A Card Party was given, refreshments were served and thought it might be interesting to know that 2 cup cakes and coffee were served at a cost of 10¢.

A Shower was given for Harriet Miller (now McPhillips).

1937 First Mother and Daughter dinner was held June 21st. Minutes did not state where, therefore assume it was held in the Hall.

1938 We purchased new window shades for the Rectory at a cost of \$46.00. A stocking club was started which was run through the efforts of Mildred Brown (now Pierson).

At one of the meetings one of the Members who had visited Abington Hospital tried to steal somebody's car (Don't remember whose car it was) fortunately the lock wouldn't give. Maybe someone can enlighten us on this. Mother-Daughter Dinner. May 10th, 1938 gave a shower for Lily Schwereng (now Hale). Mrs. Margaret McMullin resigned as Advisor due to poor health. We gave her a surprise shower and supper and a gift.

1939 Play was given "No Women Wanted". Bought material for the curtain installed on the stage, which was made by Ida Shearer, who by the way, is still living. During this year we changed the meeting place to St. Luke's Hall instead of the homes of the members, however, some of the members still entertained us.

1940 Mother-Daughter dinner at Gladimere Crest. The cost was 50¢ per person. A surprise shower was given for Anne Evans (now Roberts) and Virginia Updike (now Waldman).

1941 Mother-Daughter Dinner at Townsend's, Red Lion Road and Boulevard. A surprise farewell party was given Rev. John W. Norris and Miss Adah Hood, his sister Helen Shivery (now Brooks) was given a shower. October 20, 1941 we welcomed our new Rector, Rev. Louis Fifer and Mrs. Fifer to St. Luke's.

1942 Florence Mahler Mathers resigned as Vice President, after 15 years of service. Helen Shivery Brooks resigned as Treasurer.

1943 We were at War during this time and at our Spring Supper we were allowed 600 points for sugar and coffee. The price of tickets was 85¢ for adults and 50¢ for children. Helen Wilson resigned from the League.

1944 Replaced Prayer Books given by the League as a memorial in 1930. Started a Blanket Club which was carried on for several years.

1945 Usual suppers, Blanket club, supplied 10 table cloths, and gave \$200. towards church expenses. A reunion was to be held and a committee was appointed, as follows, - Florence Mathers, Elizabeth Gossler, Dorothy Clarkson, Alice Coffin, Anne Roberts, Jane Heritage and Marguerite M. Litzke, but never materialized.

1946-1953 Unable to find any minutes for these years, but can recall that we helped or sponsored suppers, Lawn fetes and usual activities of the Church.

In 1946 we welcomed Rev. and Mrs. John M. Weber, our new Rector.

A double shower was given for Anne Curry (now Comly) and Jane Heritage (now Clarkson).

1951 The League donated \$500. toward the "Rectory Fund", which rectory was built during that year. ↙

1955 Contributed \$100. towards the pointing of the Church.

1956 Contributed the sum of \$250. towards the Christmas offering.

1957 Contributed towards the Organ Fund \$50., \$105., and \$500. ↙

1953 - 1959 Our meeting place has been in the Hall most of the time, sometimes in one of the member's home. We have small affairs among our own group, such as White Elephant sales, Pirate Bingo, Penny party, covered dish suppers, Demonstrations, Mother-Daughter Dinners, Christmas sales. The money from the larger events now goes direct to the Accounting Wardens. At the Parish Suppers the girls usually take over the Dining room. A new type supper was held called the

"Smorgosbord", which was quite a success.

It is my sincere wish and earnest desire that St. Luke's Girls League will carry on for many years to come.

This brief history of St. Luke's Girls League was written by Marguerite M. Litzke as of May 8, 1959.

PRESENT OFFICERS:

Anne Curry Comly,	President
Naomi Leckey,	Vice President
Sara Noble,	Recording Secretary
Dorothy Ager,	Corresponding Secretary
Ruth Perrin,	Treasurer

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Alice M. Farrell	1920-1926
Marguerite M. Litzke	1926-1943
Mrs. Louis Fifer	1943-1944
Marguerite M. Litzke	1944-1948
Elizabeth K. Litzke	1948-1950
Edna Wilkinson	1950-1951
Elizabeth K. Litzke	1951-1952
Claire Wildemore	1952-1954
Bee McClure	1954-1955
Katherine Wynkoop	1955-1957
Anne Comly	1958-1959

The year Eighteen sixty-one,
Saw this work so well begun,
That we're celebrating here this happy night,
Neighb'ring clergy, filled with zeal,
Putting shoulders to the wheel,
Had established in this town a little flock.

Mrs. Henry gave the building
Where each soul, that's truly willing,
May through sacramental grace unite with God.
When assembled in those walls,
Parents! Children! duty calls
To the faith and loyalty the founders shared.

Twas faith transformed to action,
Twas a loyalty o'er faction,
That has given us St. Luke's, our heritage.
So hearts, with joy o'erflowing,
All recall His benefactions of the past.

May our hearts be ever fixed,
With devotion true, unmixed,
To the Father, Son and Spirit, Three in One.
To the faith the Father gives,
To the Church in which Christ lives,
To the Parish where the Spirit guides us on.

This poem was written by
Stanley D. Wilkinson
and
Rev. John W. Norris

in celebration of the Seventy-fifth
Anniversary of St. Luke's Church,
October, 1936.

FOLLOW ON

Far down the years there comes a song
From those brave souls who in the past
Have labored hard and labored long
To make St. Luke's stand firm and fast.

Chorus -

So, we who work at old St. Luke's,
Inspired by what's been done,
Will answer to that stirring call
To follow, follow on.
We'll follow, follow on,
We'll follow, follow on,
So, we who work at old St. Luke's
Will follow, follow on.

2

What tho' our part may be but small,
Be all unnoticed and unsung,
We're loyal hearted one and all,
We'll strive to help the work along.

The words and music of this Church School
Hymn were written by Dr. John L. Waldman,
Principal Warren G. Harding Junior High
School, dedicated Sunday, June 28, 1942.